

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hiroaki ITO et al.
Title: A PREVENTIVE OR
THERAPEUTIC AGENT FOR
INFLAMMATORY BOWEL
DISEASE COMPRISING IL-6
ANTAGONIST AS AN ACTIVE
INGREDIENT
Appl. No.: 10/677,227
Filing Date: 10/3/2003
Examiner: Prema Maria MERTZ
Art Unit: 1646
Confirmation Number: 8597

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the non-final Office Action dated December 5, 2006, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

A Petition 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for three month extension of time is concurrently filed to extend the time period for response until June 5, 2007.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: